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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

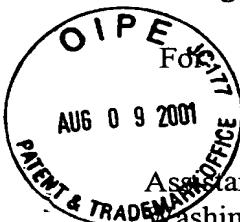
Inventor: T. KUROITA, et al.

Serial No.: 09/852,922

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Examiner: (Not Assigned)

MODIFIED THERMOSTABLE DNA  
POLYMERASEAssistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington D.C. 20231

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J.G.  
11/24/01

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(b)

SIR:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) and in conformance with the procedures of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-98 and M.P.E.P. § 609, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the fourteen references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached herewith.

It is respectfully requested that this information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to review, and to mark as considered, the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449, to make them of record in the present application and to include them in the "References Cited" section of any patent to issue on the present application.

This disclosure is being submitted before the mailing of a first office action and therefore no fee is believed necessary. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to discuss any matter in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON &amp; KENYON

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Date: Aug. 9, 2001

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